

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for assisting in lifting and maneuvering a wheelbarrow having first and second handles, the apparatus comprising:

a strap,

first engagement means secured to the strap for engaging the first handle of the wheelbarrow,

second engagement means secured to the strap for engaging the second handle of the wheelbarrow, and

means for adjusting a distance along the strap separating the first and second engagement means.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for adjusting the distance between the first and second engagement means comprises a buckle through which the lifting strap is threaded.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first engagement means comprises a hook.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first engagement means comprises a ring.

5. An apparatus for assisting in lifting and maneuvering a wheelbarrow having first and second handles, the apparatus comprising:

a strap having a first end and a second end,

first engagement means secured to the strap for engaging the first handle of the wheelbarrow,

second engagement means secured to the strap for engaging the second handle of the wheelbarrow, and

flexible padding attached to the length of the strap.

6. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the flexible padding comprises a tubular length of material having a passage through which the strap is threaded.

7. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the passage is sufficiently large to allow the strap to freely move within the passage.

8. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the flexible padding has a non-uniform thickness.

9. An apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising means for adjusting a distance along the strap separating the first and second engagement means.

10. An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the means for adjusting the distance separating the first and second engagement means comprises a buckle through which the strap is threaded.

11. An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the means for adjusting distance between the first and second engagement means comprises a cam-buckle through which the strap is threaded.

12. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the first engagement means comprises a hook

13. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the first engagement means comprises a ring.

14. An apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

first locking means being lockable at a first position along the strap selected by an operator and forming a first loop in the strap,

second locking means being lockable at a second position along the strap selected by the operator and forming a second loop in the strap such that a length of the strap between the first and second loops is a function of the first and second positions.

15. An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the first locking means comprises a cam-buckle, the strap being threaded through the cam-buckle in opposite directions to define the first loop.

16. An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the first engagement means is secured to the strap by the first loop and the second engagement means is secured to the strap by the second loop.

17. An apparatus for assisting in lifting and maneuvering a wheelbarrow having first and second handles, the apparatus comprising:

a strap, and

first locking means through which the strap is threaded to define a first loop in the strap for engaging the first handle of the wheelbarrow.

18. An apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising a second locking means through which the strap is threaded to define a second loop in the strap for engaging the second handle of the wheelbarrow.

19. An apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising flexible padding mounted on the lifting strap between the first and second locking means.

20. An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the flexible padding comprises a tubular length of material having a passage through which the strap is threaded wherein the passage has a cross-sectional area sufficiently large to allow the lifting strap to freely move within the passage.